The Town-Rakes:

OR,

The Frolicks of the *Mohocks or Hawkubites.*

With an Account of their Frolicks last Night and at ſeveral other Times; ſhewing how they ſlit the Noſes of ſeveral Men and Women, and wounded others: Several of which were taken up laſt Night by the Guards, and committed to ſeveral Priſons, the Guards being drawn out to diſperſe them.

THere are a certain Set of Perſons, amongſt whom there are ſome of too great a Character to be nam'd in theſe barbarous and ridiculous Encounters, did they not expoſe themſelves by ſuch mean and vulgar Exploits.

These Barbarities have been carry'd on by a Gang of 'em for a conſiderable time, and many innocent Perſons have receiv'd great Injury from them, who call themſelves *Hawkubites*; and their miſchiavous Invention of the Word is, that they take People betwixt *Hawk and Buzzard*, that is, betwixt two of them, and making them turn from one to the other, abuſe them with Blows and other Scoffings; and if they pretend to ſpeak for themſelves, they then ſlit their Noſes, or cut them down the Back.

The Watch in moſt of the Out-parts of the Town ſtand in awe of them, becauſe they always come in a Body, and are too ſtrong for them, and when any Watchman preſumes to demand where they are going, they generally miſuſe them.

Laſt Night they had a general Rendezvouz, and were bent upon Miſchief; their way is to meet People in the Streets and ſtop them, and begin to Banter them, and if they make any anſwer, they lay them on with Sticks, and toſs them from one to another in a very rude manner.

They attack'd the Watch in *Devereux-Court* and *Eſſex-Street*, made them ſcower; they alſo ſlit two Perſons Noſes, and cut a Woman on the Arm with a Penknife that ſhe is Lam'd. They likewiſe rowl'd a Woman in a Tub down *Snow-hill*, that was going to Market, ſet other Women on their Heads, miſuſing them in a barbarous manner.

They have ſhort Clubs or Batts that have Lead at the End, which will Overſet a Coach, or turn over a Chair, and Tucks in their Canes ready for Miſchief.

One of theſe Perſons ſuppos'd to be of the Gang, did formerly ſlit a Drawer's Noſe at *Greenwich*, and has committed many ſuch Frolicks ſince. They were ſo outragious laſt Night, that the Guards at *White-Hall* was alarm'd, and a Detachment order'd to Patrole; and 'tis ſaid, the Train-Bands will be order'd to do Duty for the future, to prevent theſe Diſorders; ſeveral of them were taken up laſt Night, and put into the Round houſes till Order is given what to do with them.

London: Printed for *J. Wright* in *Fleet-ſtreet*. 1712.